advocates, not only in terms of competence but also in terms of priority given and time and energy devoted by the advocates to the banks' work. Banks cannot allocate their legal work among different empanelled lawyers ignoring these considerations.

The question of allocation of court cases among various empanelled lawyers is a matter of day to day management of the banks and Government do not propose to interfere therein. However, whenever complaints of favouritism/nepotism are received by bank managements at higher levels are asked to look into them for corrective action, wherever called for.

Prosecutions launched under the Customs Act

1108. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of seizures made at Palam Airport by the Customs Authorities since 1st April, 1986;

(b) total number of prosecutions launched under the Customs Act throughout India since 1st April, 1986; and

(c) what is the number of persons who were convicted undtr the Customs Act throughout India since 1st April, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The total value of contraband goods seized at the Delhi Airport during the period from 1-4-86 to 31-1-87 is Rs. 5.09 crores.

(b) and (c) The total number of persons prosecuted and convicted under the Customs Act throughout India during the period from 1st April, 1986 to 31-1-1987 is given below:-

Period	Number of persons prosecuted	Number of persons convicted
1st April, 1986 to 31st January, 1987 . . .	2013	684

(Figures are provisional)

Central Excise Duty outstanding in the country

1109. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total arrears of Central Excise Duty outstanding throughout the country; and

(b) the names of the defaulters of Central Excise Duty of more than Rs. 50 lakhs and the action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Circulation of newspapers

1110. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what are the names of the newspapers having largest circulation in India, in Urdu and Punjabi languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): 'Hind Samachar' published from Jalandhar is the largest circu-

lated Urdu newspaper. 'Ajit' published from Jalandhar is the largest circulated Punjabi newspaper.

Introduction of NCC in Schools and Colleges

1111. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce compulsory training of N.C.C. right from school level;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to implement the proposal; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The cost of imparting compulsory NCC training to all the students presently studying in the schools from 8th class onwards would be prohibitive.

Bank robberies and dacoities

1112. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank robberies and dacoities committed and reported during the last two years till day in Delhi, Punjab and Haryana;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard; and

(c) the amount involved in each case and the amount recovered so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Details of cases of bank robberies/dacoities that occurred in pulic sector banks in Delhi, Punjab and Haryana during the years 1985, 1986 and up to February, 1987 and the amount involved therein, as reported by Reserve Bank of India, are given in the Annexure. [See Appendix CXLI Annexure no. 45]

Reserve Bank of India has further reported that 8 persons have been arrested in connection with these bank robberies / dacoities and an amount of Rs 3.25 lakhs has been recovered.

Fool proof security System for Banks

1113. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the PRIME MINISER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foolproof security system for Banks has since been evolved by the Government to check the robberies and dacoities in Banks;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Bank robberies/dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security environment in the locality. Banks however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements so as to offer as little inducement as possible to miscreants to rob banks and also to deter them. As this is a continuous process, security measures implemented by public sector banks are being reviewed from time to time and whenever further improvements are considered necessary, requisite guidelines/instructions are given to the Banks. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc. in branches. Since apprehension of the culprits concerned is the most